

**Conservation Commission Minutes**  
**Tuesday, December 8, 2015**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Rd.**  
**5:30pm**

**Present:** Members: Chair Ned Phillips, Jr., Vice Chair Fred Leeder, Marea Mott, and Donald Littlefield.  
**Absent:** David Roosa, Leslie Slate, and John Hopf. Also present Administrative Assistant Teresa Chmiel for the recording of the minutes and in the audience Sven Risom.

**Call to Order**

Chair Ned Phillips, Jr. called the regular meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 5:32pm.

**Discuss/Act on possible development of the process to encourage increased parking along roads, more shoulder room on roads for bike traffic, and controlling rain water runoff into Great Salt Pond and fresh water tributaries.**

Mr. Phillips, Jr. read the minutes from the November 10, 2015 meeting, highlighting the discussion of the Commission on increased parking, bike traffic, and controlling rain water runoff. The Commission asked Sven Risom to attend the December meeting; Mr. Risom was present representing the Committee for the Great Salt Pond (CGSP). He talked about working with the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board as well as asking professionals to discuss what other communities are doing and if this is an issue for Block Island. He also discussed the following:

- How to minimize the storm water run-off; and
- What are good buffers and how to strength the buffers around the Great Salt Pond (GSP);
- Should native species be planted and if so what type;
- Whether or not to have a zone around the GSP; and
- Preserving and conserving.

Mr. Risom stated the CGSP goal is to make this a community event; he will schedule a meeting at the end of January, bring together the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, experts and scientist from URI and CRMC. The Commission stated they were on board with CGSP and gives their support.

Additionally, Mr. Risom explained the need and plan for 4 walkover structures, which will be located on either side of the monument on Corn Neck Road. The walkovers will be installed in the spring and removed during the winter months.

**Draft a letter for consideration of funds for snow fencing.**

Mr. Phillips, Jr. outlined the process of putting together a bid package. Mr. Leeder volunteered to get a rough estimate of how much linear feet of snow fencing is needed and forward the information to Mr. Phillips, Jr. Mr. Phillips, Jr. suggested including the cost of beach grass in the bid package.

**Update from the Town Council meeting held Wednesday, December 2, 2015 of proposed overpasses on Corn Neck Road dune area.**

Mr. Phillips addressed the issue of reconfiguring the parking area at Scotch Beach and discusses how to get the sand from the Town Dock to fill in at Scotch Beach.

**Discuss/Act on Tree RI Grant Program 2016-2017.**

No action was taken.

**Approval of 2016 Annual Meeting Schedule.**

The Conservation Commission will meet the second Tuesday of every month at **5:30pm** in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Road as follows:

January 12, 2016	June 14, 2016
February 9, 2016	September 13, 2016
March 8, 2016	October 11, 2016
April 12, 2016	November 15, 2016 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday to accommodate voting poll at Town Hall)
May 10, 2016	December 13, 2016

No meeting scheduled for July and August 2016 unless the need arises or the Zoning Board of Review asks for an Advisory.

**Election of Officers.**

This item will be tabled until all members of the Commission are present.

**Approval of minutes of August 11, 2015, October 13, 2015, and November 10, 2015.**

Mr. Littlefield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Leeder, to approve the minutes of October 13, 2015 as presented.

4 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder, Mott, and Littlefield)	0 Nays
2 Absent (Hopf, Roosa, and Slate)	

Mr. Littlefield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Phillips, Jr., to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015 as presented.

4 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder, Mott, and Littlefield)	0 Nays
2 Absent (Hopf, Roosa, and Slate)	

**Adjournment.**

With no further discussions the meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm in a motion by Mr. Leeder and seconded by Mr. Phillips, Jr.

4 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder, Mott, and Littlefield)	0 Nays
2 Absent (Hopf, Roosa, and Slate)	

Respectfully submitted

Teressa L. Chmiel

Administrative Assistant Building and Land Use

Minutes approved: February 9, 2016